

1508/1454



A N

A L A R M

TO THE

PEOPLE of *ENGLAND*.

Price One Shilling.





A N
A L A R M
TO THE
PEOPLE of *ENGLAND*;
S H E W I N G

Their Rights, Liberties, and Properties,
to be in the utmost Danger from the present
destructive, and unconstitutional Association,
for the Preservation of the Game all over
England, which is proved to be illegal.

W I T H
A L I S T of the A S S O C I A T O R S.

*I warn'd thee, I admonish'd thee, foretold
The danger, and the lurking enemy
That lay in wait.*

MILTON.

L O N D O N:

Printed for J. SCOTT, at the *Black Swan*, in *Pater-noster-Row*,
M,DCC.LVII.

A. N.

A. L. A. R. M.

FOR THE

PEOPLE of K. C. O. L. O. R. A. D.

THEY ARE

Their Rights, Liberties, and Properties,
to be in the hands of the people
of the United States, and not
in the hands of the Government.
The people are the only
source of power, and the only
rightful basis of all
legitimate government.



A. L. A. R. M. of the ASSOCIATION

Association of the People of the United States

of the United States

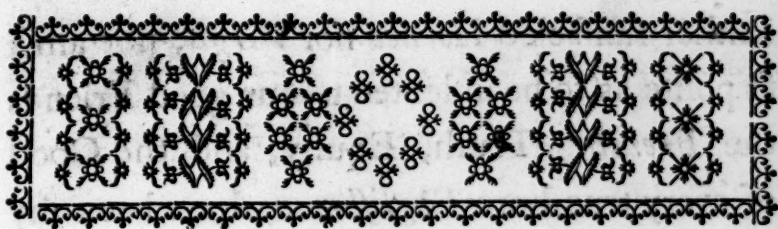
of the United States

of the United States

L. O. C. O. N.

of the United States

of the United States



AN
ALARM
TO THE
PEOPLE of *ENGLAND*.

COUNTRYMEN, and Friends
of Liberty, to you I dedicate
my Discourse, if this my En-
deavour to serve you, plain as
it is, will be acceptable, you are most hear-
tily welcome. I have not aim'd at Elegance,
and my Stile is so very plain that I have
B neither

neither ranſack'd *Horace* nor *Virgil*, nor am I ſo polite as to be indebted to our good Friends the *French*. Truth, Equity, and the Good of every true-born *Engliſhman*, have been my View, if it is received at your Hands in the Manner I meant, I care not who beſides ſhall cenſure the Attempt; of this I am conſcious, it proceeds from the Heart of one who wiſhes well to his Country, a Lover of Liberty, and an Enemy to all unjuſt and arbitrary Proceedings.

Perhaps ſome ſnarling Critics may find Fault with the Reiterations, of which I am no ways inſenſible, and would recommend my Readers rather to attribute them to a Deſire of enforcing the juſtneſs of the Cauſe, in a Manner that would moſt eaſily give the meaneſt Capacities an Inſight into their deſperate Situation. I wrote it for the Good of my Countrymen, eſpecially with Regard to thoſe who are liable to be deſtrefs'd through cruel and wicked Affociations, which certainly

ly comprehends such of my Fellow Subjects who are most exposed, not only to the Hazard and Danger of the common Enemy of *Britain*, but likewise to the Hardships which may be inflicted upon them by unjust, over - bearing, infamous, and time - serving Associators at Home.

It is therefore to be supposed the Generality of my Readers have not had the same Opportunity of improving their Capacities, which the more wealthy Part of our Island have reap'd the Advantage of; however, if my Countrymen should find any Benefit, if I should give any Hint to them in their present Emergencies, or be the Means of their extricating themselves from any Difficulties they now labour under, I rest satisfied, and shall rejoice to think my delivering it to the Public, will enable us to cast off any Mist that lies before our Eyes, whereby we may judge aright, and free ourselves from the present impending Storm, which hourly threatens us

both at Home and Abroad. I wish I could see every Individual of our Nation exert themselves with that Energy which fired the Breast of our Forefathers, when the Cause was Liberty ; then should we rest happy indeed, under the Government of the best Prince that ever filled the *English* Throne.

If any one condemns me for appearing in Public, or should say 'tis no particular Concern of mine, or it becomes not me to find Fault with my superiors ; I answer, that Man who tamely sees the Rights and Properties of the whole Nation, nay even of every Individual, monopolized by a Few ; who beholds those Bounties given him by the All-wise Creator, by cruel and wicked Associations taken away ; who views the Chains of Slavery preparing for his Country, and endeavours not by every Means to extricate himself and Fellow-sufferer's ; I say that Man is a Dupe to Tyranny, a Foe to Liberty, and an Enemy to his Country.

To

To be a free People has always been *England's* Boast, our Ancestors have fought for Liberty, and gloriously died in its Defence. Shall we then prove unworthy the ancient Name, and basely betray ourselves, nay give up our Rights and Privileges, by tamely submitting to bear the Yoke imposed on us? Oh *Albion* ! Raise up the wonted Spirit in thy Sons, view them not an enslaved Nation, pinn'd by unprecedented Measures, and deprived of the common Necessaries of Life; perhaps even now the blessed Shades of our glorious Ancestors frown from Above at this Delay. Consider, my Countrymen, at present you choose your own Representatives, who are bound, nay, it is a Duty strictly incumbent upon them, (I wish I could say, so truly observed as it ought to be) to take Care of our Rights and Liberties : How far you have been abused the present Subject will declare; you are all sensible of our Constitution ; we are under the Government of a virtuous, good and wise King, whose Actions I firmly believe

believe are sway'd by Motives of Honour, Integrity and Justice, and whose greatest Pleasure consists in the Happiness of his Subjects. Next in Power is the House of Lords, who I hope consider the Welfare of every private Man, for upon no other Basis can a Nation flourish, or Peace and Plenty enrich the Land. The Third and last is the House of Commons, compos'd of a Number of Gentlemen, Subjects as well as ourselves, neither have they any Power but what we invest them with; they are nominated by us, and, in a Word, are to represent the whole Nation; to defend us from all tyrannical Impositions, to redress all Grievances, and to oppose every Measure that is conducive of ill Consequence to the People in general; without whose Concurrence no Transaction can be carried on, nor any Law pass except by their Consent: Nay, the first Motion of all National Affairs, Money Bills in particular, are generally made in their House. They first give their Approbation, and Assent, on every such Law, before
it

it reacheth any further. It is next carried into the House of Peers, and lastly receives His Majesty's Confirmation, who like an indulgent and kind Father readily grants whatever the two Houses shall approve, not questioning but mature Consideration, and studied Care, are the Result of every Thing which is brought for his Royal Mandate. Is it not then conspicuous if burthened with Taxes who inflict them, does it not appear if Laws are made to deprive us of our Liberty, who first set them on Foot, and strove to distress us? Are they not those very Men in whom we placed an entire Confidence, whom we nominated to protect us against every Outrage, and defend us against all injurious and destructive Oppressions?

The Game Act is a Law extremely severe in itself. Does it not forbid the Poor to eat of those very Provisions ordained for their Sustainance? Does it not arm our Superiors with a Weapon which may one Day be drawn

drawn to the Destruction of *Great Britain*? Does not the same Step lead the direct Road to arbitrary Government by depriving the Farmers and Country People the Use of Fire-Arms? A Farmer truly must not be allowed to keep a Gun in his House, for Fear he should discharge it at a paltry Partridge, by which Means he and his Children will be rendered incapable of knowing how to make a proper Use of that necessary Weapon, when their Country calls upon them for Assistance. — I know a very reputable Tradesman in the City of *Westminster*, who was lately in great Danger of losing his Life through Ignorance in such Matters, he put the Butt-end of the Gun to his Breast instead of his Shoulder, and, had it not been for plentifully bleeding, the Consequence would have proved fatal to himself and Family.

Is it not extremely injurious to Liberty that the Free-born Subjects of *England* shall be deprived of the necessary Means of defending their Properties from Thieves and Robbers,

Robbers, and their King and Country from the Enemies of both? Tyrannical Power is a dangerous Sword, and if unsheathed against *England*, ought not every *Briton* to be in a Capacity of arming in Defence of their Laws, Rights and Privileges? Will *Albion's* Timidity prevent a bold Resolution, and discourage her Subjects from exerting a manly Valour, with which, a Love of Liberty has hitherto animated every true born *Englisk-man*? I say, is every Spark of heroic Fire which our Ancestors so renownedly glowed with, entirely extinguished in our Breasts? Are we so base and degenerate, granting our Lives only spared us, to resign both Liberty and Property; tamely submitting to every absolute Command, however arbitrary and unjust? Or, does there still remain some little Glimmerings of that noble Spirit, which *Albion's* Isle in every Age, has so conspicuously and tremendously pour'd forth against her Foes? If so, turn your Eyes with me upon a detestable Assembly; observe a Penal Law

carried beyond the Cruelty of a *Nero* ; a Law, the most severe *England* ever produced ; a Law, which strikes directly at our Freedom, prosecuted with the utmost Severity by infernal Associations, to the Destruction of Liberty. An Association the wickedest that ever entered into the Mind of desperate Man. A Plot so horrid that startles human Nature at the very Thought. Not contented with the Calamities a long and bloody War may bring upon us, like Bloodhounds, whose Thirst is not asswaged by the Massacre which our Country's Enemy have made with us Sons of Freedom. I say, still thirsting after more Blood, they have entered into a diabolical Association to plunder us of our Provisions, to rob us of our Liberty, and to bring every honest Man to Poverty and Ruin.

Unawed by Power, Human or Divine, in open Defiance of God and Man, our Public Papers are defiled with their pestilential Advertisements. How frequently have these
Associators

Associators therein desired, or rather ordered,
 every Nobleman and qualified Gentleman,
 whether Associator or not, to place a Ticket
 upon every such Parcel of Game, they should
 condescend to treat an honest Man with,
 shewing to all the World that they, and
 only they, had a Prerogative so to do. May
 we not ask who gave them that Authority?
 Is it authorized by Parliament? No, unless
 they would have it believed their own infer-
 nal Association is such. How often do we
 read, the Noblemen and Gentlemen associ-
 ated for the Preservation of the Game all
 over *England*, are desired to pay in their
 Subscription as usual to — and —. A
 Subscription entered into by those who call
 themselves *Englishmen*, many of whom are
 nominated by us to protect our Liberties,
 and defend us from all Insults and Oppres-
 sions; Men of Substance and Fortune, who
 can find no other Way to employ their
 Wealth (than by entering into wicked, infi-
 dious Combinations) to distress and lay in
 Waste our fruitful Country, and are joined

together to slaughter and destroy those very Men, who are the Source of all their Riches. How frequently do we see, the Noblemen and G^entlemen associatied for the Preservation of the Game all over *England*, being desired to meet at the *St. Alban's* Tavern, &c. Might not we ask, Who are those Affociators for the Preservation of the Game all over *England*? Are they not in general a Tribe of Placemen, Pensioners and fawning Sycophants (unauthorised by Parliament) assembled, without the Fear of God before their Eyes, to rob us of those Blessings given by the All-wise Creator? To plunder their Fellow-subjects, and trample under Foot all such, as are not able to defend themselves against their dark and powerful Wiles? An Association Friends to *France*, and Enemies to *Britain*. O my Countrymen! cry aloud for a general Exportation, let us transport them to their native Soil, for they are contraband, and prohibited in *England*. These Exotics, cloak'd under the Sanction of a Law,

Law, are undermining (and heaving like Moles, perpetrating dark and horrid Schemes to overturn our happy Constitution) and rob us of our Freedom.

Let us then consider by what Means we are deprived of these innocent and salutary Amusements, which our Fore-fathers, then free *Britons*, so undisturbedly enjoyed; they rose with the Morning and pursued their Sports; then could an honest Farmer, after the Heat and Fatigue of the Day, regale himself with the Fruits of his Labour; I say, he could set down with his Friend, and make a hearty Meal upon that Hare which his own Fields had reared, without the Fear of being carry'd before a Justice, and having a heavy Penalty inflicted on him, for eating that Food which had been bred up at his own Cost. Is it not hard, Severity should extend her Iron Jurisdiction in such a Manner, that a Man is not allowed to taste of the Blessings which God himself made common

to all Men ? How cruel to the Husbandman ! at whose Charge alone these very Animals are supported, that he must quietly suffer them to prey upon his Harvest, and destroy those Fruits for which he must be accountable to these Associators (who inflict such Hardships upon him) for his Rent. I say, is it not most amazingly unjust, that he must tamely permit these Devourers, to glean the Profits of his Labour, and dares not, if he has a Mind to, regale himself or Friend, with what by Right are his own Property, without the Hazard and cursed Imposition of an exorbitant Fine ; mean while these Invaders of our Liberty, these Noblemen and Gentlemen Associators, undisturbedly enjoy those Blessings ; rioting in Luxury, and in Pursuit of their Game, destroy all Fences and every Thing that comes in their Way ; which Outrage and Violence the poor Farmer after he has seen it committed, and viewed that Prey carried off triumphantly, which his own Corn had fed, must make good all Damages, and

and put up with every Insult received from these mighty Affociators : Not only chagrin'd by these unjust Oppressions, but likewise mortified in seeing his Oppressors wantonly destroy those very Provisions they have forbid him to eat, by whose Industry they are solely maintained.

Consider the Hardships every Man must endure under these Circumstances, cruel to all, but to the laborious Countryman in particular, who must pacifically suffer, not only these Affociators, but any one whom they shall think proper to call a Servant, to trample down his Corn after that Covy of Birds which he dares not touch. Such Plunder perhaps the Master may reap the Advantage of, but not unlikely, authorized by his Power, *John* tramples down the Ears of Wheat, destroying the poor Man's Crop to enrich himself, or treat some private Friend, It is not the industrious Countryman alone who labours under this Grievance, it reaches
even

even the Throne itself; for how many brave Soldiers have and may be lost by these destructive Means, God only knows. Should our Wives ever so earnestly desire a Hare, Partridge or Pheasant, how would you satisfy their Longing? Every one is too sensible of the pernicious Effects that are to be dreaded from such a Disappointment. A Woman, the Comfort of your Life, for whose Safety and Welfare you would spend your whole Wealth, in the Perils of Child-bearing, yearning for the common Necessaries of Life, and absolutely put out of your Power to procure it for her, which Denial may very probably prove fatal to the Wife of your Bosom, and rob you of a Son and Heir. Thousands and Thousands may fall a Sacrifice by these wicked Instigators, Children in Embrio, whose Lives might be of the utmost Service to their Country; Heroes, valiant and sagacious, able to defend their King from his Enemies Abroad, and protect him from wicked Coun-

Counsellors, from the Malice of dangerous, insinuating, undermining and Blood-thirsty Traitors at Home. Our blessed Saviour himself tells us, *'Twere better that a Mill-stone were hang'd about his Neck, and that he were drowned in the Depth of the Sea, than he should hurt one of his Little Ones.*

Can these Abettors and Plotters of their Destruction answer this to themselves? Will not their Conscience be a Torture, when unborn Babes shall rise up against them at the Day of Judgment? For the Murder of a Man, there's the Life of the Offender, this is some Recompence, but for the Lives of Thousands thus taken away, what Recompence can be made? Patiently must we endure all this without Redress? Oh *England!* where is thy Equity? Those very Birds which prey upon us, and are reared intirely at our Expence, which might be justly stiled a Part of our Wealth, by unprecedented, and tyrannical Affociations we are de-

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bared the Liberty of enjoying; at the same Time we must sustain the Injuries of an impertinent Villain, trampling over our Grounds, and laying every Thing waste: Better had it been for us we had never known these Blessings, than now to be deprived of them by such wicked Means, as point out the direct Road to Tyranny and Destruction.

I should not at all wonder if some Years hence a Man may not call his Wife or Daughter his own; neither would it surprize me, if these diabolical Aggressors should produce a Law, to bring up every poor Man's Daughter for the Pleasure of these Affociators, empowering them likewise, to debauch our Wives, and enslave us at their own free Will. However base this may at present seem to every thinking Man, it is but a very little beyond the other; the first is our Property, and we can claim no greater Security for the last: Thus, Step by Step, we may be
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led on, 'till Slavery overwhelms us, then will our Eyes be open'd, in vain shall we then strive for our long-boasted Liberty, when our Oppressors, by Power, prove their Authority, nay even vindicate their Conduct in seizing our Wives, Children, and Possessions, telling us at the same Time, 'tis sufficient we are indulged to breathe the fresh Air; that all our Labours and Gains belong to them, and we enjoy no one Thing but by their Clemency; insomuch that they will neither shew Mercy nor Humanity to the inferior Part of Mankind, nor regret their Destruction, more than the Hare, which is run down by their Dogs, but as willingly pull the Trigger of a Gun, aimed at our Lives, as to discharge it at a Partridge or Pheasant. Was it for this, ye Men of *England*, you lodged such absolute Authority in the Hands of some of these over-bearing Associates? Was it to ruin and distress their Fellow-subjects that you suffered them to fill those once honourable Posts? Should the growing Evil increase, I'll maintain it, we

shall enjoy more Indulgence under absolute Monarchy.

Let us therefore, either seek Redress for our known Grievances, or at once give up that Power which is lodged in the Hands of the People: Greater Hardships 'tis impossible to endure; it may be, we shall have our ancient Rights again restor'd, and freely partake of those Blessings which every free *Briton* should enjoy. I would not mean to be understood, that there is not an honest Man among the Noblemen and Gentlemen of *England*, far be it from my Heart, but the present Contagion may spread; one bad Sheep infects the whole Flock, and many Men, whose Hearts are now good, partly by wicked Companions, and partly compelled through a Fear of that Power which these Associates are every Day engrossing; I say, they may be brought over like these worthy Patriots, to dedicate themselves, and Fortunes, to the Destruction of their Countrymen. At present, to their Praise be it spoken, there are many Gentlemen

tllemen of Honour, Integrity and Probity, whom we have the Happiness to call our Representatives ; may their Number increase, and save a sinking Nation. Certain it is, there are too many who have turned the Power they were intrusted with, into a Ladder to climb up to Tyranny; that, once established, they may throw off the Mask, and shew themselves in their crimson Dye, when the Means by which they ascended, as now altogether usefess, will be cut off, and we shall be lopp'd down like falling Trees.

A Militia-Bill, lately passed in the House of Commons, although it did not succeed in the other House, by which they intended to arm the whole Nation in defence of ourselves, against the common Enemy. Let us ask two or three Questions upon the same Head. Is it to defend our Privileges? Are they not already taken away? What Need have we then to take up Arms in Defence of that which is long since gone? Are we not deprived of our Liberty, which
till

till now we have unmolestedly enjoyed? Why are we then compelled to the Fatigue of martial Exercise? Not to protect ourselves 'tis very obvious, but to keep us still Slaves, to lay down our Lives in Defence of those very Men, those very Associators, who have taken from us our most valuable Treasure, who have robbed us of our long boasted Freedom, and destined us to sink under the Burthen of Oppression and Tyranny. With Shame be it spoken, that *Britons* should tamely submit, after they are stript and pilaged of every Thing that is dear to them, to defend and fight for the Usurpers of our Freedom, still to maintain the Power in their own Hands, thereby to drain what little we have left, and distress us with more Grievances.

What signifies it to us, if we must be Slaves, who we submit to? The Burthen is the same under one Master, as another; 'tis not in the Name, but the Affliction, that the Pain lies; therefore, if we cannot disengage ourselves

selves from the cursed Hardships, which at present load us so heavy, what Matter is it, whether we are Slaves to ourselves, or to *France*; if our Oppressors will tyrannize, for God's Sake, my Countrymen, let it not be said we beg for Bonds, and fondly yoke ourselves in Slavery's Chain; let us not fight in Defence of Tyranny, and forsake our Wiyes and Children, to support those Miseries we have too long bore; rather let us contentedly see the Army of our Country's Enemy destroy and lay waste our plentiful Fields, than longer suffer the Swarm of Locusts, and be devoured by ourselves; let the Associates, the Usurpers of our Privileges, preserve their ill-gotten Power, or be subject like us, to those Hardships we are already inflicted with. Let these Associates consider, if there is a Man amongst them not entirely devoid of Reason and common Humanity, he cannot but acknowledge the cruel Oppression with which we are galled.

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Let him then think whether a People, robbed of their ancient Liberties, debarred those Blessings which the Supreme God made common to all, will, with any Degree of Courage, take up Arms in Defence of those very Men who have enslaved them. It must certainly be so, our own Properties are already gone, therefore we have Nothing to lose. A Man is not suffered to keep a Gun in his House, to insure what little he has by his Diligence acquired; he is not permitted to defend himself, and Family, against Thieves and Robbers, but as soon as these Noblemen and Gentlemen Affociators observe the least Degree of Danger towards themselves, he is compelled to bear Arms, to protect their Effects, neglecting both his Family and Business to secure them in their tyrannical Power. Is it then reasonable to suppose, a Nation once famous for Valour, a free People untroubled by illegal Affociations, who enjoyed
their

their Rights and Privileges unmolested, the very Envy of all *Europe*, nay, even of the whole World. I say, can it be supposed this Nation under their present Grievances, oppressed with detested Cruelties, and deprived of their Liberties, can, with Hand and Heart, exert their Courage, and lay down their Lives in Support of the very Men, who endeavour to over-turn their Constitution, and bind them with the Chains of Slavery; who have plundered them of their Possessions, and reduced a People, whose Liberty has been hitherto their greatest Boast, to the lowest Degree of Wretchedness and Misery?

Whereas, on the other Hand, let them but restore our long accustomed Privileges, let them but turn their Association for the Preservation of the Game, into an Association for the Preservation of their Fellow-Subjects, together with every other unjust

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Proceeding, so that the honest Man may enjoy those Bounties, ordained for the Poor, as well as Rich; I say, let them but divest themselves of that usurped Power, which now prevents every free *Briton*, from enjoying his long accustomed Liberty, and I don't question but with our wonted Courage, the whole Nation will be combined, to defend the Properties of every Individual.

The late Plan of a Militia-bill would undoubtedly have been of infinite Service, in protecting us from our common Enemy; but then, if Weapons had been put into our Hands, could it be reasonably expected, that whilst we are labouring under such grievous Oppressions at Home, we should turn the Edge of our Swords against the external Foes of *Britain*, when we have internal Enemies, much more obnoxious to every free-born *Englishman*? Where is the Man, who will carry a Gun, and perhaps perishing with Hunger, pass by those Provisions

vifions ordained for his Ufe, not daring to fatisfy his craving Appetite, becaufe he fpoils thefe Tyrants Sport? Can it be fupposed this Man, who is debarred the common Conveniencies of Life, will lift up his Arm with any Spirit in Defence of thofe who enflaved him? Firft let them redrefs this Grievance, my Countrymen, and they fhall find free *Britons* affume that Courage which has hitherto raifed *England's* Glory; then fhall we be animated by a noble Caufe, and take up Arms to defend our King, Ourfelves, our Properties, and Liberties; aroused by which, *France* fhall tremble at our Name, and our victorious Cannon fhall roar at the Gates of *Paris*. Till then, let our Swords ruft in their Scabbards, and our Revenge lie fmothered. It is thefe very Affociators, Men who ought to protect our Liberty, who have robbed us of it; certainly they have the fame Power to give, as to take away, therefore let them firft reftore us to our loft Freedom, and relin-

quish all those tyrannical Pretensions, which have of late Years subsisted, and seem to be daily encreasing; let them do this, and they may safely rely on our Bravery.

Then may *England* again rest sure upon her own Defence, nor tottering, lean upon treacherous Allies: Then Plenty and Peace shall enrich our Land, or glorious Wars reward the Soldiers Valour. Then shall we be sav'd the heavy Expence of Foreign Troops, and every pernicious Contingency appertaining thereto. How much more are we to be depended on, when inspired by a Love of Liberty, to redress our King and Country's Wrongs? It will add a double Force to our Swords, and our brandished Arms shall make the *Frenchmen* tremble; let it suffice to say, *England* is enraged, and poureth forth her Wrath against an Enemy. In a foreign Army who can trust? May we not expect the same rueful Consequences, which *Britain* has heretofore experienced on the like Occasion?

caſion? However, if they don't attempt to plunder us themſelves, the Man who fights for Pay, cares not how the Event is, ſo he but reaps his own Gains ; therefore the Maſter who beſt pays him, wins his Heart. Thus, my Countrymen, we may be over-reached, our Trade and Commerce ruined, our Cities plundered, and our Ships carried into ſtrange Ports. Oh *Albion* ! raiſe up your drooping Head, and you ye Guardians of our Country, recall that baſe and deſtructive Law, which at preſent over-whelms us with unmeaſurable Woes ; ſet us but free within ourſelves, unmanacle thoſe Hands, which have been too long bound, then ſhall Courage reſume her wonted Station, and while by Land we conquer all our Foes, our gallant Fleets ſhall reign ſole Sovereign of the Seas.

Let them meditate on this, and if after mature Conſideration, they do not find all
that

that I have said to be strictly just, and equitable; if they can point out to me a Passage in Scripture, forbidding all Men under such a Rank, to feed upon the Blessings of the Earth, I am satisfy'd; but if on the contrary, they agree, God gave them for the Use of Man, to the Poor as well as Rich; why are we debar'd them? Our present Circumstances thus dangerous, the Consequences so terrible, let us cry aloud for Redress; let us exert ourselves my Fellow-sufferers whilst we can be heard; there may come a Time, when the Power of Speech will be deny'd us; let us with a steady Resolution apply ourselves to our Representatives, set forth our Calamities; point out to them our Miseries; and shew them the Errors of their Predecessors; on which these Associators have built such a terrible Superstructure, that seems, unless speedily overturn'd, to threaten all *England* with irretrievable Ruin. At the same Time, let us unanimously enter into an Association, for the Preservation of ourselves; let us, like
true

true *Britons*, protect our Fellow-sufferers, and vigorously support them against these terrible Volcanos; let us, by a general Subscription, defend our poor Countrymen, and rescue them from the Jaws of these Devourers; let us make it one common Cause, to support those Sufferers, against whom such wicked Prosecutions are carried on; let Petitions be drawn up from every Part of the Kingdom; let us, with one Voice, cry aloud for Justice, Countrymen, and Citizens, with equal Energy; let us all seek a Remedy for our present Grievance: The Calamity is the same on one Hand as the other; at present, 'tis true, it more sensibly touches the Husbandman; but every Citizen, who is not possessed of one Hundred Pounds a Year, is liable to the same Penalty, for eating that Food which God made common to all; you have the same Loss of Freedom to regret, and the same fatal Consequences to dread; therefore, I say, in this our present rueful Dilemma, let us exert ourselves like true *Britons*, let us fly
to

to those who have taken upon them to protect us, and appear as becomes every *Englishman*, when their Liberty is at Stake; which I make no Doubt will warm our Legislators with such a Spirit of Patriotism, that they will let us no longer groan under this ignominious Weight, but, like their glorious Ancestors, be ambitious to deserve their Country's Praise. Mean while these Affociators, their Error being so conspicuous, which Term I chuse to mollify such Proceedings; let them, like true *Britons*, when they find themselves in the Wrong, not basely contend, but honourably give it up; let their Readiness appear to redress this detestable Grievance, let them use their utmost Efforts to repeal the Game-Act, at least so far as relates to the Hardships here complained of; and thereby shew to all the World, they need only be made sensible of a Mistake, and they correct it.

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We are all liable to be misled ; human Nature, is and ever has been subject to Failings, therefore to acknowledge it, when we are so, shews the greatest Wisdom in him who confesseth his Fault. Let them do this and they will thereby wipe off that Odium, which otherwise, to perpetual Ages, will cast a Slur upon their Memories, and make their Names as odious to Posterity, as the *Dilatores* of *Rome*, or the notorious *Empson* and *Dudley* of *England*. Thus, by exerting the same Spirit to protect their drooping Country, as they have lately shewn to preserve the Game, they will crown themselves with Laurels, and be adored by their Countrymen.

To convince you that this Association is intirely illegal, and that the Associators are under the Lash of the Law, and may be handled very severely for their Combination : All Associations and Combinations that tend to the Annoyance of the public Tranquility, are absolutely contrary to the Constitution of *England* ; and, every Man acting in

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such Consort, even in Defence of his Majesty's sacred Person is liable to be prosecuted accordingly. After the last Rebellion in the Year 1746, there was an Act made on purpose to indemnify such Persons therein specified, who had, during those intestine Broils, combined together in the Support of their Sovereign's Rights and Person.

If therefore it was judged necessary to take such a Step for the Safety of those who associated for the Preservation of their Prince upon the Throne ; is it not from hence evident that these Kind of Associations or Combinations are in themselves illegal and unconstitutional ? And those who act in such open Defiance of the Law, on such over-bearing and destructive Principles, as them we are now speaking of, are liable to, and ought to be prosecuted with the utmost Severity our Laws can inflict ? Which is elegantly set forth by a worthy Magistrate of the County of

of *Middlesex*, in his excellent and learned Charge to a Grand Jury some Years since, wherein he tells them, they are to enquire of Barretry, Maintenance, and Champerty, which he has clearly proved to be very great Crimes, and it is a Pity they are not oftner prosecuted.

* Barretry is, stirring up of Suits and Quarrels amongst the King's Subjects, which otherwise would be in Peace.

‡ Maintenance is, the taking in Hand, bearing up, or upholding of Quarrels, or Sides, to the Disturbance, or Hinderance, of common Right.

† Champerty is, the maintaining, and carrying on of Suits and Causes, at their own

* 33 Edw. I. Stat. 2.

‡ 1 Edw. III. Chap. 14. 20 Edw. III. Chap. 4.
1 Rich. II. Chap. 4.

+ 33 Edw. I. Stat. 2. 3 Edw. I. Chap. 25.
33 Edw. I. Stat. 3.

own Cost and Charges, to have Part of the Land or Thing in Question, or Part of the Gains.

On either of which Statutes these Affociators might be prosecuted.

The Affociators will find as good Sport, granting the Act repeal'd, as they can meet with at present. There is no Breast but what is susceptible of Resentment; if so, an injured People, whose Rights are monopoliz'd, and whose Properties are engross'd, will not fail of giving themselves all the Satisfaction in their Power, they will, we may depend upon it, embrace every Opportunity of destroying what they cannot enjoy; and I much Question if more Birds do not fall a Sacrifice, and are crush'd in the Egg-state by that Means, than would be sufficient to supply the whole Nation, were they permitted, as formerly, to fire their Guns in support of themselves and Families, as well as to destroy

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an Enemy. Every one would then be careful to preserve all Sorts of Game, till they came to their Maturity, and not, as is now practis'd, destroy every Thing they come near. These arrogant Affociators might then follow as good a Chase, and bring down as many Brace of Partridges, or Pheasants, as they can at present; besides it would be pointing out some Recompence to the Farmer, and enable a sober industrious Man to earn a Shilling in an honest Way, at a Time when he would otherwise be idle, and put it in his Power to treat himself, or oblige a Friend, with what at present is often impossible. All things thoroughly considered, when urged by a general Eccho of the Peoples Voice, every Member spurr'd on by those Plebeians, whom he is in Parliament to represent; will, I hope, as becomes a wise and good Ruler, let us no longer groan under the heavy Weight of oppressing Bonds, but speedily and honourably free us from those Hardships,

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we have lately so patiently endur'd. And these Associators, who at present so unworthily assemble for the Destruction of every *Englishman*; let them appear foremost in the Undertaking, that it may be found all voluntary and no Compulsion.

At the same time, we should bring ourselves to think it was all for our Good, and to answer some wise End, which we were not able from our weak Capacities to comprehend; that having now tryed how we could bear Adversity, they will let loose the Reins, and give us our full Scope of Freedom; when by the Blessing of God, the Goodness of our Sovereign, and the Unanimity of his Subjects, *England* shall again become a flourishing Nation; then shall we uncontrouled, extend our Trade and Commerce, wheresoever it will be to our Advantage; prove Conquerors in War, and settle a Peace, by lasting and honourable Treaties; then shall we reap all those

those Blessings a happy People can enjoy, under a benevolent and wise King.

I presume, my Fellow-sufferers are not a little curious to know who these Worthies are, that (not only in open Defiance of our national Laws, but contrary to the Command of that All-wise Being, who is the sole Author of every Thing) exert themselves so strenuously in the Defence of Game, they have so wickedly monopolized, and have so dexterously aimed at the Ruin of my poor Countrymen, as thinking it undoubtedly the most secure, and likewise the most expeditious Way of gaining their Ends.

To be sure a Man, although he may be high in personal Esteem, and rich to the utmost of an avaritious Wish, I say, one Man, even dignified with the Title of *Honourable*, *Right Honourable*, nay, *His Grace* himself, singly, would not think it prudent to under-
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take so dangerous an Enterprize, as ruining a whole Nation ; however great his Ambition may be, still Self-preservation argues the contrary. Therefore, and very wisely too, an Association was deemed the most successful Method to obviate our Liberty, and overwhelm us with Destruction. I have used my utmost Endeavours to procure a perfect and authentic List of these Associates for the Preservation of the Game all over *England*, but met with Difficulties unfurmountable ; neither Money nor Interest availed me aught, every Measure proved altogether fruitless, and I can attribute my bad Success to nothing else, than the Cunning and Subtilty of these diabolical Agents, whose Names and Deeds are so properly adapted to the infernal Regions, that they consequently keep themselves in Oblivion ; hid from all Mankind, despised and looked upon with Contempt by every one. Although my Attempts have been baffled, and my Schemes

Schemes have not proved sufficient to produce the black Catalogue intire; nevertheless I have met with some Few, which I shall here present you with, and if it should hereafter lie in my Power, by any Means whatever, to come at the Remainder of these Affociators, you may be assured I shall ever be willing to oblige my good Countrymen with it, and, in any Thing else, to the utmost of my Abilities, they may command,

Their most obedient humble Servant,

A True-born *Englishman*.

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THE



T H E

LIST of ASSOCIATORS.

His Grace the Duke of Dilatores, President.

The Most Hon. the Marquis of Gunnergy.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Clinchall.

The Right Hon. Lord Viscount Hotspur.

The Right Hon. Lord Viscount Devilsmate.

The Hon. Sir Simple Harebrains, Bart.

The Hon. Sir Greedy Partridge, Bart.

The Hon. Sir Gaudy Pheasant, Bart.

The Hon. Sir Rightful Privilege, Bart.

The Hon. Sir Gilbert Pensioner, Bart.

The Hon. Sir Simon Faithless, Bart.

The Hon. Sir Ramble Moregame, Bart.

Sir Sampson Stutter, Knt.

Sir T. Tinsey, Knt.

Sir Walter Wagtail, Knt.

Sir William Flash, Knt.

Sir Graceless Greedy, Knt.

Sir Lifeless Looby, Knt.

Sir Simon Pride, Knt.

Sir Thomas Placeman, Knt.

The Hon. General Thickpate.

Lieutenant General Fearall.

Major General Fribble.

Brigadier General Ladyman.

The Hon. Colonel Stoutless.

Lieut. Col. Swaggerblade.

Major Lashback.

The Hon. Capt. Debauchee.

William Ringleader, esq;

R. Gloomy, esq;

Dismal Spectacle, esq;

Thomas Skinflint, esq;

H. Tunbelly, esq;

R. Swigbottle, esq;

Benjamin Neverstart, esq;

Anthony Burgundy, esq;

William Bumper, esq;

B. Florence, esq;

H. Goblins, esq;

B. Lord, esq;

T. Manner, *esq*;
S. Bluster, *esq*;
Wm. Hater, *esq*;
E. Dorfer, *esq*;
Thomas Catamite, *esq*;
William Wronghead, *esq*;
T. Whoremaster, *esq*;
E. Briber, *esq*;
B. Foolscap, *esq*;
Benjamin Lacecoat, *esq*;
H. Gaudy, *esq*;
William Opera, *esq*;
Hatred Malice, *esq*;
Charles Daring, *esq*;
John Defiance, *esq*;
R. Bailey, *esq*;
—— Mortgage, *esq*;
Benjamin Drivler, *esq*;
Anthony Shakenframe, *esq*;
Simon Rattlesnake, *esq*;
Wallaping Fatty, *esq*;
Timothy Addlebrains, *esq*;
Henry Asthma, *esq*;

C. Dropfy, *esq*;
Daniel Palfey, *esq*;
Humphry Cornfoot, *esq*;
B. Gouty, *esq*;
William Poxtell, *esq*;
Humphry Pyecrust, *esq*;
Edward Turtle, *esq*;
Francis Ragou, *esq*;
—— Soupmeagre, *esq*;
Humphry Glutton, *esq*;
Simon Epicure, *esq*;
G. Senceless, *esq*;
W. Blunderbus, *esq*;
James Shallow, *esq*;
Simon Lacwit, *esq*;
D. Goofecap, *esq*;
T. Thunderbolt, *esq*;
Gregory Bashaw, *esq*;
—— Overall, *esq*;
Pauper Charity, *esq*;
W. Pulpit, *esq*;
S. Church, *esq*;

T.

T. Parson, *esq*;
Gilbert Turf, *esq*;
S. Jockey, *esq*;
Tardy Sweepstakes, *esq*;
Anthony Distance, *esq*;
G. Fortune, *esq*;
B. Dice, *esq*;
G. Winnings, *esq*;
Frederick Thousands, *esq*;
E. Guinea, *esq*;
Thomas Gamester, *esq*;
Charles Cockpit, *esq*;
Nicholas Fleecer, *esq*;
Joseph Huntsman, *esq*;
Setter Bird, *esq*;
R. Fowler, *esq*;
Pointer Spring, *esq*;
Benjamin Aimwell, *esq*;
Finder Beagle, *esq*;
Harry Longdog, *esq*;
Boldly Rundown, *esq*;
Breathless Hare, *esq*;

ARTFUL

(48)

ARTFUL ROBBERS, *esq;*

ThOmas GETHERal JOINDer, *esq;*

INægo HORRIDall, *esq;*

—— PLOT, *esq;*

ThOmas OVERall TURNer, *esq;*

—— FLOURy, *esq;*

CONSTIliard TUTIONer, *esq;*

ANDrew PLUNDER, *esq;*

AUSTin OFling, *esq;*

HOURan LIBERTYne, *esq;* of the

Tribe of Gad.

FAMILY

